

## NEWS RELEASE

## PRESS OFFICE

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## American Indian Chamber of Wisconsin Becomes SBA'S Only Native American Micro Lender

**Milwaukee:** Wisconsin's newest Micro-Lender, First American Capital Corp. (FACC), a subsidiary of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (AICCW), is the only Native American micro-lender in the Nation. FACC will operate as a micro-lender in all areas in Wisconsin where Native Americans reside. The loans are available to all Native Americans as well as others who qualify for the program.

On Friday, June 15, 2007, Jeff Bowman, President of FACC and Craig Anderson, Executive Director of the AICCW accepted a check in the amount of \$500,000 from Eric Ness, SBA District Director and William Largent, Director of SBA Office of Native American Affairs that launched SBA's newest micro-lender.

The Chamber, located at 10809 W. Lincoln Avenue, Suite 102 in West Allis, Wisconsin, is also home to First American Capital Corp., where the micro-lending applications will be processed. They will be able to make loans to eligible borrowers in amounts up to a maximum of \$35,000 under the Micro-Loan Program. The American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin was established to help generate economic growth and wealth creation in Wisconsin Indian Country and FACC, with fifteen years of experience, has developed an acute awareness of the needs of the American Indian entrepreneur.

"Being an SBA micro-lender is an exciting opportunity for First American Capital Corp. and the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin. This compliments very well our current lending activities and allows us to become an even stronger economic development company for Wisconsin's Indian Country and other communities," said First American Capital Corp. President Jeff Bowman. "FACC and AICCW already have a strong commitment to assisting Native owned businesses, but now we have another way to invest in them financially. We are thankful for our partnership with SBA and their confidence in our vision and plan and look forward to strengthening the Native business community with this powerful tool. On behalf of our Board and our members, I can say we are very proud of this accomplishment."

"We are proud to have First American Capital Corp. and the American Indian Chamber as the only SBA Native American micro-lender in the Nation," said SBA District Director Eric Ness.